

REMARKS

Claims 25 through 37 remain pending in the present application. Claims 26 through 37 are objected to by the Examiner as being dependent upon a rejected base claim that would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

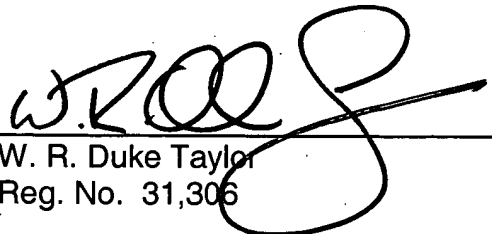
The undersigned would like to thank Examiner Lieu for the courtesies extended to him during the personal interview on August 19, 2004. During the interview, the rejection was discussed.

The Examiner has rejected Claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) alleging it to be anticipated by Bone et al. At the interview, the Bone reference was discussed. The Bone reference was filed as a PCT application with its effective filing date of February 12, 2001. This date is after Applicant's August 10, 2000 filing date. Accordingly, the Bone reference is not a proper reference under §102. Accordingly, the Examiner agreed that this reference could not be applied in this case. The Examiner indicated that an up-date search would be needed before it can be determined whether the application is ready to be passed to issue.

In light of the above remarks, Applicant submits that all pending are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to pass the case to issue at her earliest possible convenience. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present application, she should not hesitate to contact the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 25, 2004

By: 
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